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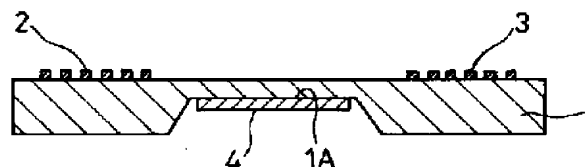
(54) 【発明の名称】 弾性表面波センサ

## (57) 【要約】

【目的】 センサ部材の組み込みを容易にし、またセンサ部材と I D T 電極との接触を無くす。

【構成】 圧電性基板 1 は漏洩弾性表面波を伝搬できる材料にされ、その表面には弾性表面波を励起する I D T 電極 2 と、基板 1 を伝搬してくる漏洩弾性表面波を電気信号に変換する I D T 電極 3 を形成し、基板 1 の裏面中央部には窪み部 1 A を形成し、該窪み部 1 A にセンサ部材 4 を貼り付ける。これにより、基板を伝搬する漏洩弾性表面波の音速をセンサ部材のセンシング状態に応じて変化させるセンサを構成する。センサ部材と I D T 電極は、互いに分離した面に位置して接触を無くし、その損傷を防止すると共に作製を容易にする。窪み部を設けることによりセンサ部材を基板表面から浅く位置させ漏洩弾性表面波に対するセンサ感度を高める。

実施例の素子断面図



1 … 圧電性基板  
2, 3 … I D T 電極  
4 … センサ部材  
1 A … 窪み部

## 【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】 一方の表面が平板状にされ他方の裏面が平板状でその中央部に窪み部を形成し、表面に漏洩弾性表面波を伝搬する圧電性基板と、

前記基板の表面の両側部の一方の部位で電気機械結合を得、信号源によって励起された弾性表面波を発生する第1のIDT電極と、

前記基板の表面の両側部の他方の部位で電気機械結合を得、該基板を伝搬してくる漏洩弾性表面波の周波数変化をセンサ出力として得る第2のIDT電極と、

前記基板の窪み部に設けられ、前記基板を伝搬する漏洩弾性表面波の音速をセンシング状態に応じて変化させるセンサ部材とを備えたことを特徴とする弾性表面波センサ。

## 【発明の詳細な説明】

## 【0001】

【産業上の利用分野】本発明は、弾性表面波を利用したセンサに関する。

## 【0002】

【従来の技術】この種のセンサは、図3に示すように、圧電性基板1の両側にすだれ状のIDT（インター・デジタル・トランスデューサ）電極2、3を形成し、電極間になる基板1面にセンサ部材4を付着させる。

【0003】この構成において、IDT電極2には高周波信号源5から所定周波数の信号を印加し、IDT電極2で励起された弾性表面波をIDT電極3に伝搬させ、このIDT電極3の電気機械結合による出力周波数を計測器6で測定する。

【0004】センサ部材4は、基板1面に付着されることで基板1を伝搬する弾性表面波の音速を低下させる。その度合いは、センサ部材4のセンシング状態に対応する。これにより、計測器6で計測される周波数は、センサ部材4のセンシング状態により変化し、この周波数変化をセンサ出力として利用することができる。

【0005】例えば、湿度センサを構成するには、センサ部材4をセレン薄膜や炭素膜とし、その水分の吸収度合いに応じて基板1の音速を変化させる。また、ガスセンサは、ホルムアルデヒド脱水素酵素とその補酵素を水晶基板の塗布膜としてホルムアルデヒドの濃度を周波数変化として検出する。また、臭いセンサは、水晶振動子が持つ微量質量の高検出感度を利用して臭いの元となる化学物質を周波数変化として検出する。さらに、苦みセンサや金属の腐食センサなどにもそれぞれのセンサ部材を使った応用がなされる。

## 【0006】

【発明が解決しようとする課題】従来構成において、IDT電極を設けた基板表面でセンシングを行う方法では、基板1自体が極めて小さくなることから、センサ作製に際してIDT電極2、3とセンサ部材4が接触する恐れがある。

【0007】このため、IDT電極やセンサ部材に損傷を与えることがある。また、電極間の短絡が起きないようにIDT電極の保護のための保護膜形成等の対策を取らなければならない。

【0008】本発明の目的は、センサ部材の組み込みを容易にし、またセンサ部材とIDT電極との接触を無くした構造の弾性表面波センサを提供することにある。

## 【0009】

【課題を解決するための手段】本発明は、前記課題の解決を図るため、一方の表面が平板状にされ他方の裏面が平板状でその中央部に窪み部を形成し、表面に漏洩弾性表面波を伝搬する圧電性基板と、前記基板の表面の両側部の一方の部位で電気機械結合を得、信号源によって励起された弾性表面波を発生する第1のIDT電極と、前記基板の表面の両側部の他方の部位で電気機械結合を得、該基板を伝搬してくる漏洩弾性表面波の周波数変化をセンサ出力として得る第2のIDT電極と、前記基板の窪み部に設けられ、前記基板を伝搬する漏洩弾性表面波の音速をセンシング状態に応じて変化させるセンサ部材とを備えたことを特徴とする。

## 【0010】

【作用】圧電性基板を伝搬する弾性表面波として、波のエネルギーが基板表面に集中しているが、波が伝搬する際にバルク波を基板内に放射しながら伝搬する漏洩弾性表面波（リーキー波、疑似弾性表面波）を利用する。

【0011】これにより、センサ部材をIDT電極が設けられる表面に位置させるという制約を無くし、基板の裏面に設けて漏洩弾性表面波の周波数変化作用素とすると共に、IDT電極とは反対の基板面に設けてIDT電極との接触を無くす。

【0012】漏洩弾性表面波に対するセンサ部材の作用は、基板が薄いほど効果的であるが、基板を薄く形成すると保持構造や基板強度が問題となる。そこで、基板は比較的厚くし、基板中央部には窪みを形成して該部位にセンサ部材を設ける。

## 【0013】

【実施例】図1は、本発明の一実施例を示す素子断面図である。

【0014】圧電性基板1は、一方の表面が平板状にされ、その両側部にIDT電極2、3が形成される。また、圧電性基板1は、他方の裏面が中央部に窪み部1Aを有して平板状に形成される。窪み部1Aにはセンサ部材4が貼り付けられる。

【0015】この圧電性基板1は、漏洩弾性表面波を伝搬する材料にされる。例えば、水晶基板やLiTaO<sub>3</sub>基板、Li<sub>2</sub>B<sub>4</sub>O<sub>7</sub>基板があり、特に零温度係数のカットになるLSTカット水晶基板が好ましい。

【0016】本実施例において、IDT電極2は高周波信号源が接続され、電気機械結合によって圧電性基板1に漏洩弾性表面波を発生する。IDT電極3は、圧電性

基板1の表面を伝搬してくる漏洩弾性表面波を電気機械結合によって電気信号に変換し、計測器への出力を得る。

【0017】ここで、圧電性基板1を伝搬する漏洩弾性表面波が基板1内面に放射するバルク波がセンサ部材4のセンシング状態によって影響を受け、結果的に漏洩弾性表面波の伝搬速度が変化する。この速度変化によってIDT電極3で変換する信号の周波数変化として捉えるセンサを構成できる。

【0018】本実施例によれば、センサ部材4とIDT電極2、3とは圧電性基板1の表面と裏面に分離される。これにより、従来の構造で問題となるセンサ部材とIDT電極との接触による損傷を無くし、また保護膜の形成を不要にする。

【0019】また、本実施例では、圧電性基板1の窪み部1Aにセンサ部材1を貼り付けるようにしたため、圧電性基板1の表面から比較的浅い位置にセンサ部材1を配置でき、センサ部材1が与える漏洩弾性表面波の伝搬速度変化への効果を高め、センサ感度を下げることは少ない。

【0020】図2は、本発明の他の実施例を示す。同図が図1と異なる部分は、圧電性基板1の窪み部1Aの形成に、センサ部材4を貼り付ける面部分のみとしたことにある。

【0021】すなわち、圧電性基板1の窪み部1Aは、センサ部材4を取り囲む構造になり、センサ部材4の幅方向にも壁部1Bを持つ構造になる。この構造は、圧電性基板1の窪み部1Aをエッチングで形成することによって実現される。

【0022】本実施例では前記の実施例と同様の作用効

果を得ることができるのに加えて、壁部1Bを持つことから窪み部1A面をIDT電極側表面に対して浅く形成するも基板1に十分な曲げ強度を持たせることができる。これにより、センサ部材4を基板表面に一層近く配置でき、センサ感度を高める効果がある。

【0023】

【発明の効果】以上のとおり、本発明によれば、漏洩弾性表面波を利用することによりIDT電極を形成する面とセンサ部材を配置する面とを圧電性基板の表面と裏面に分離する構造としたため、IDT電極とセンサ部材の接触が無くなり、IDT電極とセンサ部材の作製を容易にし、しかも互いの接触による損傷を確実に防止する効果がある。

【0024】また、センサ部材の貼り付けには圧電性基板に窪み部を設ける構造としたため、基板の厚みを比較的厚くしてその強度に十分なものを得ると共に、センサ部材を漏洩弾性表面波の伝搬面から比較的浅く位置させてセンサ感度を高めることができる。

【図面の簡単な説明】

【図1】本発明の一実施例を示す素子断面図。

【図2】他の実施例を示す素子断面図。

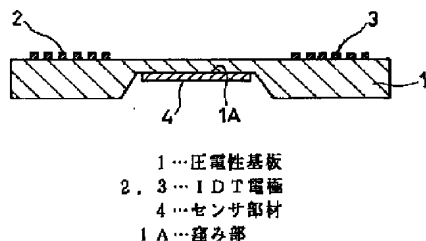
【図3】従来の素子斜視図。

【符号の説明】

- 1…圧電性基板
- 2、3…IDT電極
- 4…センサ部材
- 5…信号源
- 6…計測器
- 1A…窪み部
- 1B…壁部

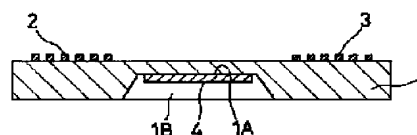
【図1】

実施例の素子断面図



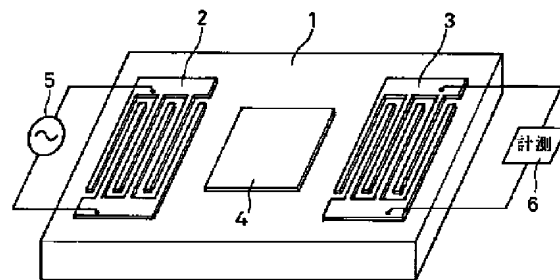
【図2】

他の実施例の素子断面図



【図3】

従来の素子斜視図



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(54) SURFACE ACOUSTIC WAVE SENSOR

(57)Abstract:

PURPOSE: To assemble sensor members easily and to eliminate the contact between the sensor members and an IDT electrode.

CONSTITUTION: A piezoelectric substrate 1 is made of a material for propagating leakage surface acoustic wave, and IDT electrode 2 for exciting the surface acoustic wave and an IDT electrode 3 for converting the leakage surface acoustic wave propagated on the substrate 1 are formed on the surface, a recessed part 1A is formed at the center of the inverse side of the substrate 1, and a sensor member 4 is applied to the recessed part 1A, thus constituting a sensor which changes the sound velocity of the leakage surface acoustic wave propagated on the substrate 1 depending on the sensing state of the sensor member 4. The sensor member 4 and the IDT electrode 2 are positioned on mutually separated surfaces for eliminating contact, thus preventing the damage and at the same time facilitating the manufacture. By providing the recessed part 1A, the sensor member 4 is positioned at a shallow location from the substrate surface, thus improving the sensor sensitivity for the leakage surface acoustic wave.

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CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1]A surface acoustic wave sensor comprising:

A piezoelectric substrate which one surface is made plate-like, and a rear face of another side forms a hollowed part in the center section by plate-like, and spreads a leakage surface acoustic wave on the surface.

The 1st IDT electrode that generates a surface acoustic wave which obtained electric machine combination by one part of a side part of the surface of said substrate, and was excited by signal source.

The 2nd IDT electrode that obtains electric machine combination by a part of another side of a side part of the surface of said substrate, and obtains a frequency change of a leakage surface acoustic wave which spreads this board as a sensor output. A sensor member to which acoustic velocity of a leakage surface acoustic wave which is formed in a hollowed part of said substrate and spreads said substrate is changed according to a sensing state.

[Translation done.]

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#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Industrial Application]This invention relates to the sensor using a surface acoustic wave.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art]This kind of sensor forms the blind-like IDT (interdigital transducer) electrodes 2 and 3 in the both sides of the piezoelectric substrate 1, and makes the sensor member 4 adhere to the 1st page of the substrate which becomes inter-electrode, as shown in drawing 3.

[0003]In this composition, impress the signal of predetermined frequency to IDT electrode 2 from the high frequency signal source 5, IDT electrode 3 is made to spread the surface acoustic wave excited with IDT electrode 2, and the output frequency by electric machine combination of this IDT electrode 3 is measured with the measuring instrument 6.

[0004]The sensor member 4 reduces the acoustic velocity of the surface acoustic wave which spreads the substrate 1 because the 1st page of a substrate adheres. The degree corresponds to the sensing state of the sensor member 4. Thereby, the frequency measured with the measuring instrument 6 can change with the sensing states of the sensor member 4, and can use this frequency change as a sensor output.

[0005]For example, in order to constitute a humidity sensor, the sensor member 4 is used as a selenium thin film or a carbon film, and the acoustic velocity of the substrate 1 is changed according to the absorption degree of the moisture. A gas sensor detects formaldehyde dehydrogenase and its coenzyme as a coating film of a crystal substrate, and detects the concentration of formaldehyde as a frequency change. A stinking sensor detects the chemical which becomes the stinking one origin using the height detection sensitivity of the minute amount mass which a crystal oscillator has as a frequency change. The application using each sensor member is made by a bitterness sensor, the metaled corrosion sensor, etc.

[0006]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention]Conventionally, by the method of performing sensing in the substrate face in which the IDT electrode was provided in composition, since substrate 1 the very thing becomes very small, there is a possibility that IDT electrodes 2 and 3 and the sensor member 4 may contact on the occasion of sensor production.

[0007]For this reason, damage may be done to an IDT electrode or a sensor member. Measures, such as protective film formation for protection of an IDT electrode, must be taken so that an inter-electrode short circuit may not occur.

[0008]The purpose of this invention is to provide the surface acoustic wave sensor of the structure which made inclusion of a sensor member easy and abolished contact with a sensor member and an IDT electrode.

[0009]

[Means for Solving the Problem] This invention is characterized by comprising the following, in order to aim at solution of said technical problem.

A piezoelectric substrate which one surface is made plate-like, and a rear face of another side forms a hollowed part in the center section by plate-like, and spreads a leakage surface acoustic wave on the surface.

The 1st IDT electrode that generates a surface acoustic wave which obtained electric machine combination by one part of a side part of the surface of said substrate, and was excited by signal source.

The 2nd IDT electrode that obtains electric machine combination by a part of another side of a side part of the surface of said substrate, and obtains a frequency change of a leakage surface acoustic wave which spreads this board as a sensor output.

A sensor member to which acoustic velocity of a leakage surface acoustic wave which is formed in a hollowed part of said substrate and spreads said substrate is changed according to a sensing state.

[0010]

[Function] Although the energy of a wave is concentrating on the substrate face as a surface acoustic wave which spreads a piezoelectric substrate, the leakage surface acoustic wave (a reaky wave, a pseudo elastic surface wave) spread while emitting a bulk wave in a substrate, when a wave spreads is used.

[0011] The restrictions of making it by this located in the surface on which a sensor member is provided in an IDT electrode are lost, provide in the rear face of a substrate and it is considered as the frequency change operator of a leakage surface acoustic wave, and it provides in the substrates face where an IDT electrode is opposite, and contact with an IDT electrode is abolished.

[0012] Although the operation of the sensor member to a leakage surface acoustic wave is so effective that a substrate is thin, if a substrate is formed thinly, holding structure and substrate strength will pose a problem. Then, a substrate is made comparatively thick, a hollow is formed in a substrate center section, and a sensor member is provided in this part.

[0013]

[Example] Drawing 1 is an element sectional view showing one example of this invention.

[0014] As for the piezoelectric substrate 1, one surface is made plate-like and IDT electrodes 2 and 3 are formed in the side part. The rear face of another side has the hollowed part 1A in the center section, and the piezoelectric substrate 1 is formed in plate-like. The sensor member 4 is stuck on the hollowed part 1A.

[0015] This piezoelectric substrate 1 is used as the material which spreads a leakage surface acoustic wave. For example, the LST cut quartz board which there are a crystal substrate, a LiTaO<sub>3</sub> board, and a Li<sub>2</sub>B<sub>4</sub>O<sub>7</sub> board, and becomes especially the cut of a zero temperature coefficient is preferred.

[0016] In this example, a high frequency signal source is connected and IDT electrode 2 generates a leakage surface acoustic wave in the piezoelectric substrate 1 by electric machine combination. IDT electrode 3 changes into an electrical signal the leakage surface acoustic wave which spreads the surface of the piezoelectric substrate 1 by electric machine combination, and obtains the output to a measuring instrument.

[0017] Here, the bulk wave which the leakage surface acoustic wave which spreads the piezoelectric substrate 1 emits to substrate 1 inner surface is influenced according to the sensing state of the sensor member 4, and the propagation rate of a leakage surface acoustic wave changes as a result. The sensor regarded by this speed change as a frequency change of the signal changed with IDT electrode 3 can be constituted.

[0018] According to this example, the sensor member 4 and IDT electrodes 2 and 3 are divided into the surface and the rear face of the piezoelectric substrate 1. This abolishes damage by contact with the sensor member and IDT electrode which pose a problem with the conventional structure, and formation of a protective film is made unnecessary.

[0019] In this example, in order to stick the sensor member 1 on the hollowed part 1A of the piezoelectric substrate 1, it is rare to be able to arrange the sensor member 1 in a comparatively shallow position from the surface of the piezoelectric substrate 1, to heighten the effect to propagation rate change of the leakage

surface acoustic wave which the sensor member 1 gives, and to lower sensor sensitivity.

[0020]Drawing 2 shows other examples of this invention. A different portion from drawing 1 has the figure in having considered it only as the field portion which sticks the sensor member 4 on formation of the hollowed part 1A of the piezoelectric substrate 1.

[0021]That is, the hollowed part 1A of the piezoelectric substrate 1 becomes the structure which encloses the sensor member 4, and becomes the structure which has the wall 1B also crosswise [ of the sensor member 4 ]. This structure is realized by forming the hollowed part 1A of the piezoelectric substrate 1 by etching.

[0022]In this example, in addition to the ability to obtain the same operation effect as the aforementioned example, since it has the wall 1B, sufficient flexural strength for \*\*\*\*\* 1 which forms a hollowed part 1A side shallowly to an IDT electrode side surface can be given. Thereby, the sensor member 4 will arrange further in a substrate face soon, and there is an effect which raises sensor sensitivity.

[0023]

[Effect of the Invention]By this invention, a leakage surface acoustic wave is used as above.

Therefore, it writes with the structure of dividing into the surface and the rear face of a piezoelectric substrate the field which forms an IDT electrode, and the field which arranges a sensor member, contact of an IDT electrode and a sensor member is lost, production of an IDT electrode and a sensor member is made easy, and it is effective in moreover preventing damage by mutual contact certainly.

[0024]For attachment of a sensor member, write with the structure of providing a hollowed part in a piezoelectric substrate, make thickness of a substrate comparatively thick, and sufficient thing for the intensity is obtained, and a sensor member is located comparatively shallowly from the propagation side of a leakage surface acoustic wave, and sensor sensitivity can be raised.

[Translation done.]

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#### DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[Drawing 1]The element sectional view showing one example of this invention.

[Drawing 2]The element sectional view showing other examples.

[Drawing 3]The conventional element perspective view.

[Description of Notations]

- 1 -- Piezoelectric substrate
- 2, 3 -- IDT electrode
- 4 -- Sensor member
- 5 -- Signal source
- 6 -- Measuring instrument
- 1A -- Hollowed part
- 1B -- Wall

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- 2.\*\*\*\* shows the word which can not be translated.
- 3.In the drawings, any words are not translated.

DRAWINGS

[Drawing 1]

[Drawing 2]

[Drawing 3]

[Translation done.]